

Deacon Minutes Approved  
12 March 2019

Present: Pam Parker, Debbie Ellison, Marion Lynn, Cindy Taylor, Steve Stalder, Rob Stegeman, Ishi Stackpole, Jim Lorenzetti, and Pastor Cable

Absent: Dennis King

Opening Prayer: Rob Stegeman

Meeting Opened: 5:45 p.m.

- Quorum established.
- February 2019 Deacon Minutes: Approved as amended. Ordered to be sent out to the Deacons, Session and Office Staff.

**Pastor's Report**

- Gospel Shaped Mercy study was completed last month and with Ritchey going on sabbatical this summer, we should look to a study that could be Deacon led.
  - Jim suggested something along the lines of “Love your neighbor” and will lead next months lesson. He will then either decide to continue leading or pass to another deacon.
  - Study will last through August
- Staffing of the church office will be extremely low next week (Spring Break)
  - Caitlin and Caleb will be in Guatemala
  - Michael has more legal paperwork to complete for adoption
  - Ritchey leaving for Texas with his 2 younger kids
  - Therefore, any bulletin announcements for the next 2 weeks need to be submitted by tomorrow 13 Mar 2019
- Discussion concerning Deacon to replace Teri Burgen
  - Nominee must come before a congregational meeting for approval
  - Name currently being considered will not be able to start until Jan 2020
  - Term limits
    - Established for Elders in late 1940s; Deacons traditionally followed, but not mandated
      - 2 terms, then rotates off for 1 year
      - EPC follows these guidelines
      - Book of Order may provide ability to alter these for Deacons
  - Suggested replacement would be able to attend meetings, but would not be able to vote, as a way to maintain continuity, until approved by congregation

## Team Reports

- **Coordinating**
  - No report
  
- **Finance**
  - See report from March 6<sup>th</sup>
  - Financial reports show giving just ahead of 2017, but behind 2018
    - Could reflect decreased attendance to weather/snow
    - Likely too early to tell
  - Discussion on attendance numbers
    - Numbers can be found in CCB
      - May be 2-3 weeks behind
      - Arcie inputs numbers
    - Numbers not provided in bulletin as it can be divisive
      - Are we tracking those who attend regularly and then drop off?
      - Regular attenders are not assigned to under-shepherds
      - How can we minister to those who may drop off the radar?
        - Run report in CCB to flag those who stop attending and are not members assigned to an under-shepherd
        - AI: Mercy Team to look into
  
- **Helps**
  - See report
  - No big issues
  - People stepped up during the winter weather days to cover shortages on Sundays
  - Teri has all the coffee teams trained
  - Chair team will be recruiting in April as some members are dropping off
  
- **Mercy**
  - see report
  - Easter Egg Drop for College students coming up
  - Sermon CDs are getting out to Shut ins
  
- **Property**
  - See report 28 Jan 2019
  - Property budget is more limited this year than before
  - Interviewing new custodial companies
  - Interviewing lighting companies to change over lights to LEDs churchwide and in the parking lots
    - Have one quote
    - Need session approval to move forward before 31 Mar so rebate from KCPL won't be lost (\$6000)
    - Will get other quotes, but may not be before end of the month

- Change over will save church about \$500/mo by decreasing energy use
- Request of all teams:
  - If there is a property need/purchase, make provision for it in your team budget. Property team will take care of it after it is acquired.
  - Question as to which team owns the Fellowship Hall Kitchen and hence responsible for replacing equipment.
    - AI: Rob to ask Coordinating Team
- Discussion on Capital Improvement Budget
  - Savings
  - Put away a percentage of giving into this fund
  - Used for expected nonannual maintenance expenses

### **Old Business**

- AI: Finance line item explanations still needed to develop “cheat sheet” to use when filling out reimbursement forms.
  - Give to Finance Team deacons (Steve or Jim)

### **New Business**

- Communications cards
  - Per Caitlyn, once filled out, cards are sorted by Michael or Emily and given to the person responsible for request on back of card
    - Communication failure occurred with the request for Coffee Team volunteers
    - Suggested that the team using the back of the cards, follow up with Emily early in the week
- Discussion regarding exclusivity of certain volunteer positions to church members
  - Some positions need to ensure the volunteer beliefs align with GEPC’s e.g. SS teachers, elders, deacons, mentors etc
    - This is affirmed in the vows taken at member presentation
    - Regular attenders have not affirmed these
  - Future communications will try to clarify whether positions can only be filled by members or nonmembers also.
- Deacons encouraged to be added to the prayer chain

### **WOW reports/Prayer Requests**

- What a blessing God has given to the Morefields. Asher Tate Morefield. Adoption proceeded much faster than most, but not without its ups and downs. God is good!
- Marion told of a man he had interacted with in a Prison ministry in Pennsylvania, called him recently and told him he was going to be baptized this month.

- April Downey does a wonderful job with the Prayer Chain. Gets the notifications out very quickly.
- Debbie E's husband recovered very quickly from his surgery.
- Engineering marvels of the Panama canal was enjoyed by Debbie and her husband.
- Prayer request: Glenn Tott and some recent health issues.

Closing Prayer: Pam Parker

Meeting adjourned: 7:30 pm

Next Meeting: 9 April at 5:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Taylor  
Clerk of Deacons

Rob Stegeman  
Moderator